



August 1, 2008

Dear Colleague:

Kentucky Virtual Library (KYVL), as part of the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), has been severely impacted by budget reductions applied to agencies due to decreased state revenues. Since January 2008, CPE, and therefore KYVL, have taken cuts totaling 19.5%. As you may have heard, KYVL has found that the initial projections for total cost reductions were high; the anticipated loss is approximately \$450,000.

Your access to several databases including International Index to Music Periodicals, Biography Reference Bank, Literary Reference Center, ProQuest Computing, ProQuest Career & Technical, ProQuest Alt-Press Watch, EBSCO Database Package (Military & Government Collection, Religion & Philosophy Collection, Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition, Professional Development Collection), and OCLC databases (excluding WorldCat) is in jeopardy as KYVL cannot maintain these in the core collection.

KYVL recognizes that these databases are vital to our members and heavily used across the Commonwealth. We have enlisted the services of SOLINET (the Southeastern Library Network) to help us coordinate an effort to keep these products in our core collection.

For our first recourse, SOLINET is gathering pledges to defray the costs of databases that will otherwise be cancelled; hoping that KYVL members will be able to commit to saving the databases marked for cancellation, or on the "kill" list.

We see the SOLINET effort as two-fold: gathering pledges for the products on the "kill" list, in order to keep them available for all in the KYVL core collection and, simultaneously, acquiring pricing for our individual members and groups, in case the pledges don't come through. We all hope that the "pledge drive" will be successful and that KYVL will be able to keep these titles. A form requesting a contribution from your institution, library or school is forthcoming. We hope that you will participate in this effort and maintain the standard of quality resources for Kentucky citizens.

We would like to remind our members that the SOLINET-KYVL partnership affords several benefits to your library: access to the SOLINET Help Desk; subscriptions to SOLINET's electronic publications; preservation, consulting and other services; postings on the SOLINET Job Bank; and discounts on databases and other library products. In addition, you are eligible to attend SOLINET member forums, conferences and events and receive discounts on SOLINET classes. You may also purchase OCLC services such as CatExpress and Interlibrary Loan (ILL) through SOLINET.

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Because KYVL is a member of SOLINET through their Affiliate Membership Program, we are pleased to provide these services to your library.

KYVL and SOLINET will be sending communications on the pledge drive, with "watch the web" information for pledge progress, and coordinating daily on this process. Should you have any questions or need more information, please send an email to KYVInfo@SOLINET.net.

Best,



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